

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (Canceled)

29. (New) A check valve, adapted for use with hydraulic cylinders, the valve comprising a valve housing and a switchable valve insert received therein, with at least one connection for a high pressure line connected to at least one of a cylinder chamber and an annular chamber of the hydraulic cylinder, the valve further comprising at least one connection for an additional unit selected from the group consisting of a pressure limiting valve, a pressure sensor, and a pressure display, wherein the valve housing can be fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, and wherein the connections run axially parallel to the axis of the hydraulic cylinder in its position fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, the inner side of the valve housing facing the hydraulic plunger in the mounted state of the valve is adapted to the outer contour of the hydraulic cylinder, the valve housing is provided with a recess at its plunger-side inner side, which overlaps a mounting plate arranged at the hydraulic cylinder in the mounted state of the valve.

30. (New) The valve according to claim 29, wherein the mounting plate comprises a hydraulic inlet to the cylinder chamber of the hydraulic plunger.

31. (New) A check valve, adapted for use with hydraulic cylinders, the valve comprising a valve housing and a switchable valve insert received therein, with at least one connection for a high pressure line connected to at least one of a cylinder chamber and an annular chamber of the hydraulic cylinder, the valve further comprising at least one connection for an additional unit selected from the group consisting of a pressure limiting valve, a pressure sensor, and a pressure display, wherein the valve housing can be fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, and wherein the connections run axially parallel to the axis of the hydraulic cylinder in its position fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, the connections are arranged in at least two stages at the valve housing, with a first, lower

stage near the inner side and a second, higher stage near the outer side of the valve housing.

32. (New) The valve according to claim 31, wherein the connections for the high pressure lines and/or for the pressure display are arranged in the higher stage.

33. (New) The valve according to claim 31, wherein the connections for the pressure limiting valve and/or the pressure sensor are arranged in the lower stage.

34. (New) A check valve, adapted for use with hydraulic cylinders, the valve comprising a valve housing and a switchable valve insert received therein, with at least one connection for a high pressure line connected to at least one of a cylinder chamber and an annular chamber of the hydraulic cylinder, the valve further comprising at least one connection for an additional unit selected from the group consisting of a pressure limiting valve, a pressure sensor, and a pressure display, wherein the valve housing can be fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, and wherein the connections run axially parallel to the axis of the hydraulic cylinder in its position fixed to the hydraulic cylinder, comprising at least one fastening means for an extension housing which can be mounted in a releasable manner to one of the side walls of the valve housing for additional hydraulic functions of the shield-type support frame, the extension housing comprises a hose connection and connection receptions for function elements for actuating a corner cylinder of a shield-type support frame.

35. (New) The valve according to claim 34, wherein the extension housing comprises a reception bore for a pressure control valve as a function element for actuating the corner cylinder.

36. (New) The valve according to claim 34, wherein the extension housing is provided with connection receptions for function elements for controlling a movement of only one horizontal skid of the shield-type support frame.

37. (New) The valve according to claim 34, wherein the valve housing comprises a hydraulic outlet to the cylinder chamber of the hydraulic plunger at the rear side or at the bottom side.

38. (New) the valve according to claims 34, wherein the hose connections and the connection receptions are axially parallel to the hydraulic plunger.

39. (New) The valve according to claim 29, wherein the connections at the valve housing are arranged at the top at the valve housing in its position fixed at the hydraulic cylinder.

40. (New) The valve according to claim 29, wherein the inner side of the valve housing facing the hydraulic plunger in the mounted state of the valve is adapted to the outer contour of the hydraulic cylinder.

41. (New) The valve according to claim 31, wherein the connections at the valve housing are arranged at the top at the valve housing in its position fixed at the hydraulic cylinder.

42. (New) The valve according to claim 31, wherein the inner side of the valve housing facing the hydraulic plunger in the mounted state of the valve is adapted to the outer contour of the hydraulic cylinder.

43. (New) The valve according to claim 29, wherein the side of the valve housing facing the connections comprises a chamfer or the bottom side of the valve housing comprises a chamfer.

44. (New) The valve according to claim 31, wherein the side of the valve housing facing the connections comprises a chamfer or the bottom side of the valve housing comprises a chamfer.